A

FULL and IMPARTIAL ACCOUNT OF THE Oxford-Riots.

CONTAINING

I. The Behaviour of the Conſtitution-Club, with a compleat Liſt of the RIOTERS cited before the Vice-Chancellor, and the Proceedings againſt them.

II. An Order againſt Riots, and Tumults, drawn up by Biſhop *SMALRIDGE*.

III. An Order for the ſtrict Obſervation of the Firſt of *Auguſt*, the Day of His Majeſty's happy Acceſſion to the Throne.

IV. The Subſtance of Judge *DORMER*'s Excellent CHARGE, upon opening the Aſſizes, on *Wedneſday* the Third of *Auguſt*.

V. The Preſentment of the Grand-Jury, read to the Court by Sir *Robert Jenkinſon*, Bart. Foreman, on *Friday* the Fifth of *Auguſt*.

VI. An Account of the *Anabaptiſt*-Teacher at *Oxford*, who Baptized Two young Women in the Morning, and was found in Bed between them the ſame Night.

In a Letter from a Member of the Univerſity, to his Friend in London.

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A

Full and Impartial ACCOUNT OF THE *OXFORD* Riots, &c.

Oxon, Auguſt 12. 1715.

SIR,

THE many falſe Reports and Forgeries concerning our Tumults in this Place, make it neceſſary that this Matter ſhould be ſet in as clear a Light as poſſible, eſpecially, at a time when many of our Enemies lie on the Scent for any Failings on our Side: I ſhall therefore, with all the Brevity imaginable, as well as Fidelity, give you here a Detail of this Affair, which has cauſed ſo many unjuſt Reflections to be caſt on the Innocent, while the Guilty have been not only ſpared, but publickly vindicated: To proceed,

On *Saturday*, *May* 28. ſeveral Gentlemen, who had conferred on themſelves the plauſible Name of the **Conſtitution-Club** (not that they were firmer Friends to the preſent Settlement, but that they might make a very ill Uſe of a good Name) met at the *King's Head-Tavern* in the *High-Street*, to drink Proſperity to the Royal Family; and before the Door they had piled up a very large Heap of Faggots for a Bonfire, ſo large that the Inhabitants did then affirm, and have ſince ſworn, that it was unſafe to light it in that Place, by reaſon of the Narrowneſs of the Street.

Upon the Deſire and Repreſentation of the People, this was pulled down and carried away, not, according to that Wretch *The Flying-Poſt*, to any Gown-Man's Chamber, but to the Dwellings of the poor Inhabitants who demoliſh'd it.

This proceeding, with the prodigious Sums offered by the **Conſtitution-Club** to light the Fire, in which it was fully deſigned to burn the Effigies of the late Queen *ANNE*, of *Bleſſed Memory*, our Chancellor the Duke of *ORMONDE*, *&c.* This Proceeding, I ſay, raiſed that Rabble of People, which (notwithſtanding the Vigilance of Dr. *Charlet*, then Pro-vice-Chancellor, who did his Duty to the utmoſt) went firſt to the *Presbyterian*-Meeting-Houſe, where they gutted it, and pulled down beſt part of the Shell, the Pulpit

was

was brought out and burned near *Carfoix*, where ſeveral took Pieces as Reliques; after this, they proceeded, and put the *Amen-Raiſer* of that Place into the Stocks.

But as to the burning in Effigies the Reverend Mr. *Roby*, which is aſſerted in the *Flying-Poſt*, (in a Letter wrote by one Mr. *Benj. Needler*, a Lawyer's Clerk, who in Gratitude for the greateſt Civilities paid him in this Place, was pleaſed to ſcandalize his Friends and Benefactors) we know not the Fact, nor the Perſon; we having no ſettled Teacher here, the Sectariſts being ſo few, and ſo poor, of that Perſuaſion, as not to be able to maintain a conſtant Paſtor.

Upon hearing of this Matter, the Senior Proctor, Mr. *Deering*, (Brother to Sir *Cholmondeley Deering*) came out, and tried to diſperſe the Rabble, which was in vain till he went into the *King's-Head-Tavern*, and diſperſed the **Conſtitution-Club**, which at once diſperſed the reſt; nay, ſo careful was he of their Safety, that he accompanied them Home, and guarded them ſafe from the Inſults of a juſtly enraged Mob.

As ſoon as they came to *New-College*, (of which only ſome were Members, though all went in) the Door being ſhut, and they in entire Security, they ſhot off ſeveral Blunderbuſſes, and other Fire-Arms, at a venture among the People, ſome of which they wounded, and others had very providential Eſcapes.

This

This Fire made the Rabble give way, when going quietly Home, one Mr. *Tel——on*, Brother to the Lord *L——ille*, fired his Gun ſeveral times among them from *Hart-Hall*-Windows, which, as God ordered it, did no Miſchief.

Afterwards ſome paſſing by *Oriel-College* were fired at again, though with the former Succeſs.

Thus wore out this Day; the next being the Joyful Anniverſary of the Glorious Reſtauration, Illuminations were placed, and Bonfires made, and a ſmall Company raiſed to a great Mob by ſome of the Emiſſaries of the **Conſtitution-Club**, mixed among them, who have (as particularly the *Coryphæus* of the Faction) boaſted, that they had light up ſuch a Flame in the Town and Univerſity that would not ſoon be quenched; this we have upon Oath. Theſe Incendiaries, mixed with the reſt, conducted them to the Quaker's Meeting-Houſe, which was very ſtrongly barricadoed, and could never have been forced, had not ſome of the Incendiaries threaten'd Mrs. *Eaton* to pull down her Houſe; ſo that her Servant was forced to unlatch the Door; when they entered, pulled down the Inner-doors, took away all the Benches, ſome part of the Wainſcot, and ſeverely broke the Windows of the Meeting-Houſe, as well as the next Houſe of one *Nichols*, a Quaker, who is ſaid, by the *Flying-Poſt*, to have been plundered

Plunder'd, and his Plate loſt; whereas, the Man himſelf has aſſured many here, that he loſt nothing; the Materials were conſumed in a Fire, made for that Purpoſe, near St. *John*'s-College, over againſt which, the Meeting-Houſe ſtood.

Before this, I ſhould have told you, that the Rabble pull'd down a Room, formerly made uſe of by the *Anabaptiſts*, near the Caſtle, though lately the Sect has loſt its Name, as well as its Credit, here, by a famous Prank of the laſt Teacher's, who chriſtened two Wenches in the Morning, and was found in Bed between his new Converts at Night.

They were hurried on here, by a fatal *Impetus*, the Spirit of the Faction, which began, encourag'd, and carried on this whole Matter; but the Error was ſoon rectifyed, when the Landlord brought his Petition to the Univerſity, where he repreſented, that the Houſe was lett for other Uſes, but was fraudulently converted into a Meeting-Houſe, contrary to his Deſign and Contract; his Damage has been ſince, by liberal Contributions, repaired.

After theſe Burnings were finiſh'd, and the Mob diſperſing, a Party came down by *Oriel*-College, where one Mr. *Charles Ing———m*, Brother to the Lord *Ir———in*, having collected a great Number of his own Party into a Room, which they called the Guard-Room, and which was repleniſhed with Guns, Piſtols, Powder,

Powder, and Ball, which they made ſufficient Uſe of, without any Provocation. As ſoon as the People came near the College, the Fire-Arms were immediately diſcharged, and a Perſon wounded in the Groin, which gave juſt Grounds to the injur'd People, to demand Juſtice; this was required at the College-Gate but denied; and had not the Provoſt and Fellows came down, and one of the People interpoſed, 'till Juſtice was promiſed on the Offenders, the College might have been pulled down to the Ground, and the People *De-Witted.*

Thus ended this troubleſome Night, not without great Joy to the **Conſtitution-Club**; the ſucceeding Days were employ'd in taking Depoſitions by Dr. *Charlet*, Sir *Daniel Webb*, the Mayor, and Mr. Recorder, moſt of which proving too much againſt the true Authors and Abettors of theſe Riots, clandeſtine Means, and vile Practices, were made uſe of, to procure innocent Perſons to be accuſed; two of the **Conſtitutioners**, particularly one, a Reverend Divine, went to the Quakers, (who lived next Door to the Meeting-Houſe,) and pumped them to find out, whether none of St. *John*'s-College were Actors in this Riot, but met with an Anſwer they expected not, *That they were always quiet Neighbours to them; and that none of them, according to the beſt of their Knowledge, were there:* This not taking Effect, Rewards were offered to any

to any who would bring in Depoſitions, and Subornation, will, I doubt not, be proved on the Authors of theſe tumultuary Proceedings.

After this, ſome time paſt on in taking Informations, and making proper Diſcoveries, in order to an impartial Puniſhment of Offenders, which could not be effected, 'till on *Friday*, *July* 15. 1715, the Vice-Chancellor appeared in the Chancellor's Court, with Dr. *Bourchier*, *Regius*-Profeſſor of Civil-Law, and Judge of the Court; and the following Perſons being cited, their Names were called over, and Articles ordered to be exhibited againſt them by Mr. *Aaron Baker*, M. A. Proctor of the Office for the Univerſity, on this Occaſion.

Stipulation, that is a pecuniary Security, was entered into for the anſwering of Articles and ſtanding out the Proceſs.

The Gentlemen, called and appeared, are as follow: *Viz.*

Constitution-Club.

Henry Thomas, M. A. Fellow
Reverend *George Lavington*, M. A. Chaplain
Carew Reynell, Fellow
Sir *William Holford*, Fellow
Mr. *Richard Wykeham*, Gentleman-Commoner
Mr. *Paul Bearcroft*, A. B. Fellow
Mr. *William Moss*, Gentleman-Commoner
Mr. *Edward Thompson*, Fellow
Mr. *Andrew Corbet*, Gentleman-Commoner
Mr. *Will. Wharton*, Gentleman-Commoner
} of *New-College*.

Honourable Mr. *Yelverton*, of *Hart-Hall*.

Mr. *Hamilton*
Mr. *Yeoman*,
Mr. *Harle*,
Mr. *Hales*,
Mr. *Hadley*,
Mr. *Francis Burton*,
Mr. *Sayer*,
Mr. *Charles Ingram*, Gentleman-Commoner
} of *Oriel-College*.

Honorable

Honourab. Mr. *Char. Compton*,
Sir *William Stapleton*, Bart. } of *Chriſt-Church.*
Mr. *Fox*,

Sir *Henry Hoo Keates*, Bart. of *Worceſter--College.*

Barzillai Jones, L.L.B. Fellow of *All Souls-College.*

Mr. *Charnock*, Gentleman-Commoner, of *Merton-College.*

Mr. *John Maynard*, Gentleman-Commoner, of *St. John's-College.*

Mr. *Thomas Liſter*, A.B. of *Trinity College.*

Mr. *Sutton*, Gentleman-Commoner, of *Wadham-College.*

It is worthy Obſervation, that the laſt named Gentleman, Mr. *Sutton*, was once a Member of the **Conſtitution-Club**, and left them in Abhorrence to the impious and execrable Healths, and wicked Converſation there uſed.

Moſt of theſe Perſons appearing, were order'd a further Appearance on *Friday*, *July* 29. where they received the Informations drawn up againſt them in ſeveral Articles, and have Time allowed them to give in their Anſwers, till *October* 21. next enſuing; after which, all Matters will come to a Proof, and ſpeedily afterwards to a definitive Sentence adequate to the Demerits of the ſeveral Offenders.

Thus lay Matters dormant (excepting Two *Programmas* publiſhed, and hereunto annexed, one in Abhorrence and Deteſtation of the late unjuſtifiable Riots, drawn up by Biſhop *Smalridge*; another for the quieter Obſervation of the Firſt of *Auguſt*) till the Judges, *Dormer* and *Blencowe*, came on *Wedneſday*, *Auguſt* 3. when on the 4th Inſtant, Mr. Juſtice *Dormer* gave his Charge to one of the *fineſt Juries*, *Gentlemen of the beſt Qualities, and beſt Eſtates, he ever ſaw in any Circuit*; which are his own Words and Character of them.

In his Charge, after having promulged the new Laws as uſual, he came to the laſt about preventing of *Riots* and *Tumults*, and ſaid, He had poſitive Orders from the KING, *to take Notice of the late Proceedings; that he expected the Anſwers of the Vice-Chancellor and Mayor in as conciſe, and yet as full a Manner, as might be in Writing, to lay before the Council:* Then he proceeded to tell us, *how ſorry he was that this Place ſhould give the firſt Example to the pulling down of Meeting-Houſes; and that he hoped the Vice-Chancellor would take ſufficient Care to puniſh all under his Juriſdiction, as well as that the Grand-Jury would make diligent Enquiry after all under their Cognizance:* He ſeverely reprimanded the Townſmen, telling them, *That they were Rebels on Record for ſome Ages; that they acknowledged the Illegality and horrid Barbarity*

of

of that Rebellion annually, by their offering Sixty Pence for the Murder of as many Scholars in one of their Brawls, in St. Mary's *Church, on* February 10. St. Scholaſtica's *Day; that it would not be unjuſt that their Poſterity ſhould for ever carry ſome laſting Reproach of their infamous Proceedings in theſe latter Days.* He concluded, *with adviſing all, to repair former Miſcarriages, by a future good Conduct.*

After the Charge given, the Grand-Jury retired, and having found all the Bills againſt the Criminals, proceeded to take Depoſitions on Oath concerning the *Riots*; and after a narrow Enquiry into the Matters laid before them, the following Preſentment was drawn up by Mr. *Cole* of *Einſton*, and —— *Lenthall*, Eſq; of *Burford*, late High-Sheriff of this County, and was read to the Court by Sir *Robert Jenkinſon*, Bart. Foreman, on *Friday*, *Auguſt* 5. 1715.

My Lord,

" THE Grand-Jury having taken into
" their Conſideration the Matters re-
" commended to them, after the ſtricteſt En-
" quiry they could make do find, that the
" late tumultuous and riotous Proceedings in
" this City had their firſt Riſe from a Sett
" of Men, whoſe Principles are oppoſite to
" MO-

" MONARCHY, and all good Order " and Government; ſhrowding their ill De- " ſigns under the ſpecious Name of a **Con- " ſtitution-Club**; that it appears to us, " that they met armed, and were the Au- " thors and main Abettors of all the Miſ- " chiefs and Violences which enſued.

" It appears alſo, that the Vice-Chancel- " lor and Governors of the Univerſity, have " proceeded according to their Statutes, and " will inflict the ſevereſt Puniſhments upon " all, who ſhall be found to have offended.

" We further humbly take leave to repre- " ſent to your Lordſhip, that the Mayor of " this City has uſed his utmoſt Endeavours " to ſuppreſs theſe Riots and Tumults, after " they were ſet on foot.

" We find, that all other Parts of this " County have demeaned themſelves, as " becomes Dutiful and Loyal Subjects; and " I am to aſſure your Lordſhip of our Ab- " horrence of the late Riots and Tumults in " ſeveral Parts of this Kingdom, as well as " here, ſet on foot and encouraged by thoſe " People, who are not only Enemies to His " Majeſty's Perſon, but even to the Name of " MONARCHY it ſelf.

" I am alſo deſired to return your Lord- " ſhip our hearty Thanks for your moſt ex- " cellent and ſeaſonable Charge; and that " the Nation in General, and this County in " Particular, may be Partakers with us in

" the

" the Benefit of it, I am to make our hum-
" ble Requeſt to your Lordſhip, that you
" will be pleaſed to make it Publick.

Mr. Juſtice *Dormer* returned the Gentlemen of the Grand-Jury his Thanks for their excellent Preſentment, and deſired to be excuſed printing his Charge, as not being finiſhed enough for the Preſs: This is a Full, Exact, and Juſt Account of the Proceedings here, which, I hope, will in ſome Meaſure clear this Loyal Univerſity from the many unjuſt Calumnies caſt on it.

I reſt yours,

PHILOXON.

At

At a General Meeting of the Vice-Chancellor, Heads of Houſes, and Proctors of the Univerſity of Oxford, *at the* Apodyterium *of the Convocation-Houſe, on* Saturday, June 4. 1715.

WHEREAS on *Saturday*, and on *Sunday* laſt at Night, a Multitude of Perſons, to us unknown, did, in a tumultuous and riotous Manner, aſſemble together in the publick Streets, and walk from one Part of the City to the other, breaking of Windows, rifling of Houſes, and committing other Outrages, to the great Terror of the Inhabitants, in Contempt of the wholſome and well known Laws of this Univerſity, and of the Governors thereof: We the Vice-Chancellor, Heads of Houſes, and

and Proctors, think it incumbent on us, to make this publick Declaration, of our utmoſt Abhorrence and Deteſtation of ſuch Offences, and our firm Reſolution to puniſh all ſuch Perſons, as ſhall be duly convicted thereof, according to the utmoſt Severity and Rigour of our Statutes.

And the more effectually to prevent the like Diſorders for the Time to come, we do ſtrictly require and enjoyn all Magiſtrates and Officers of this Univerſity, to be vigilant and careful in viſiting all Publick-Houſes, and in puniſhing all diſorderly Perſons whom they ſhall find there, or elſewhere, by Impriſonment, Expulſion, Suſpenſion from Degrees, Mulct, and other ſtatutable Penalties.

More particularly We do require, that our Statutes be put in Execution againſt all Diſturbers of the Peace, ſuch as are Perſons bearing Arms, Night-Walkers, all who gather together Multitudes of Men in Publick, or who meet in private and un-

unauthorized Aſſemblies and Confederacies, otherwiſe than is permitted by the Statutes of the Realm, the Canons of the Church, and the Order of this Univerſity.

We do alſo ſtrictly command all Tutors to be careful, that their Pupils behave themſelves in a quiet and orderly manner, and that they repair to, and abide within their reſpective Colleges at the Hour prefix'd by our Statutes, and this more eſpecially on pubblick Days of Feſtivity and Rejoyceing.

And the better to preſerve the publick Peace, and the Tranquility of this Univerſity, We do admoniſh all Perſons whatſoever to avoid all odious and contumelious Words of Reproach and Diſtinction, which may tend to create Diſcord and Animoſities, and to conduct themſelves with that Gravity, Sobriety, and Loyalty, as may beſt anſwer the true Intentions of our pious Founders and Benefactors, may moſt redound to the Honour and Intereſt,

tereſt of the Univerſity, and entitle us to the Bleſſing of God, the Approbation of Good Men, and the Continuance of his Majeſty's Protection and Favour.

Copies of theſe printed Orders to be hung up and preſerv'd in the publick Halls of all Houſes, as alſo in the Lodgings of the Heads of Colleges and Halls.

ARTHUR CHARLETT,
Vice-Chancellor

At a General Meeting of the Vice-Chancellor, Heads of Houſes, and Proctors of the Univerſity of Oxford, *at the* Apodyterium *of the Convocation-Houſe, on* July 26. 1715.

WHEREAS *Monday*, the Firſt of *Auguſt* next, is appointed for a Day of Publick Thankſgiving for His Majeſty's happy Acceſſion to the Throne; leaſt ſo juſt an Occaſion of Rejoycing, ſhould be turned into Exceſs and Tumult, it is hereby Agreed and Ordered:

I. That no Scholar, or Number of Scholars, whatſoever, ſhall, by giving Drink, or otherwiſe, endeavour to draw together any Multitude of People; or make

make any Bonfires, or be preſent at any, before any Tavern, or any other Part of the Streets, other than what are made by the Univerſity, or by Colleges or Halls at the *Publick Expence* of the Society; and all Colleges and Halls are hereby forbidden to light up any Bonfire at any other Time of the Day than immediately after Morning-Service at St. *Maries*, at which Time the Univerſity-Bonfire is uſually made before the Church-Doors.

II. All Publick Houſes are hereby ſtrictly forbidden to entertain any Gueſts whatſoever, except Travellers, after Nine a Clock at Night, *which Time* is ſignified by Tolling the Great Bell at *Chriſt-Church-College*; and all Perſons are enjoyned *Then* to repair immediately to their own Houſes, unleſs they ſhall be Abroad upon Lawful and Neceſſary Buſineſs. And all Colleges and Halls are required to ſhut up their ſeveral Gates at that Hour, and alſo to reſtrain their Members

bers from wandering in the Streets after that Hour, or before it, as much as may be.

III. All Magiſtrates of the Univerſity are hereby ſtraightly required and deſired, to put in Execution the wholſome Laws of the Realm, and Statutes of the Univerſity, particularly thoſe *De Moribus Conformandis*, Tit. 15. *eſpecially on the Day and Night aforeſaid:* by which means it is hoped that all Tumults and Diſorders may be prevented, (or elſe the Authors of them ſeverely puniſhed) which have lately given very great Offence and Scandal to all Well-wiſhers of the Safety and Proſperity of this Univerſity.

IV. And becauſe the *Magiſtri Vicorum* have no ſmall Share in the Government of this Place *within their ſeveral Diſtricts*, Tit. 17. Sect. 6. (ſuch as, *Pacem Domini Regis & Univerſitatis cuſtodire: Juniores Scholares otioſe, & abſque Habitu ſibi competente, obambulantes aut commorantes,*

commorantes, corripere & increpare, eoſque, ut ad Aulas & Collegia ſua ſe recipiant, cogere: Recuſantes autem à Gradibus Scholaſticis impedire, &c.) therefore it is thought expedient on this Occaſion, to remind thoſe Officers as well of their Authority as of their Duty: The Names of whom, for the better procuring to themſelves, as well as others, due Reſpect, and for the better enabling them to exerciſe the Truſt repos'd in them, are here made Publick, *viz.*

MA-

MAGISTRI VICORUM.

In Parochia

S. Clementis,	*M.* Bouchier, *M.* Iſham,	è *Coll. Magd.*
S. Petri in Orient.	*M.* Rothery, *M.* Clarkſon,	è *Coll. Reg.*
B. Mar. Virg.	*M.* Weſt, *M.* Purchas,	è *Coll. Om. Anim.* è *Coll. Univ.*
Omn. Sanctor.	*M.* Cartwright *M.* Rayner,	è *Coll. Æn. Naſ.* è *Coll. Linc.*
S. Martini,	*M.* Spry, *M.* Geere,	è *Coll. Exon.*
S. Aldati,	*M.* Harriſon, *M.* Gregory,	ex *Æde Chriſti.*
S. Ebbæ,	*M.* Brent, *M.* Wilſon,	è *Coll. Pemb.*
S. Petri in Ball.	*M.* Thompſon, *M.* Jones,	ex *Aul. N. Hoſp.*
S. Michaelis,	*M.* Priſland, *M.* Ellis,	è *Coll. Jeſ.*
S. Mar. Magd.	*M.* Muxlow, *M.* Kennet	è *Coll. Ball.*
S. Ægidii,	*M.* Wynne, *M.* Jones,	è *Coll. Jeſ.*
S. Thomæ,	*M.* Darney, *M.* Tench,	ex *Aul. Gloc.* ex *Aul. N. Hoſp.*

In vico vulgo vocat.

Holywell,	*M.* Edmonds, *M.* Naſh,	è *Coll. Nov.* è *Coll. Wadh.*
Pye-Lane,	*M.* Street, *M.* Breton,	è *Coll. Mert.*
Cat-Street,	*M.* Mayo, *M.* Baker,	ex *Aul. Cerv.* è *Coll. Wadh.*

BERN. GARDINER,
Vice-Chancellor.

N. B. All

N. B. All Perſons are to take Notice, that by an Act made this preſent Seſſion of Parliament, Entituled, *An Act for preventing Tumults and Riotous Aſſemblies, and for the more ſpeedy and effectual Puniſhing the Rioters*, "If "any Perſons to the Number of "Twelve or more, being unlawful- "ly, riotouſly, and tumultuouſly "Aſſembled together, to the Di- "ſturbance of the Publick Peace, "at any Time after the laſt Day of "this inſtant *July*, ſhall not Di- "ſperſe themſelves in one Hour af- "ter Proclamation made for ſo do- "ing by the proper Officer and ac- "cording to the Form therein pre- "ſcribed; and alſo, that, if any "Perſons ſo aſſembled ſhall unlaw- "fully, and with Force, demoliſh, "or pull down, or *begin* to demo- "liſh, or pull down, any Church "or Chappel, or any Building for "Religious Worſhip, Certified and "Regiſtred according to the *Sta-* "*tute* 1° *William* and *Mary*, Entitu-

" led, *An Act for Exempting Their*
" *Majeſties Proteſtant Subjects, Diſſen-*
" *ting from the Church of* England,
" *from the Penalties of certain Laws,*
" or any Dwelling-Houſe, Barn,
" Stable, or other Out-Houſe, that
" then in either of theſe Caſes, the
" Offenders therein ſhall be adjudg'd
" Felons, and ſhall ſuffer Death as
" in Caſe of Felony, without Bene-
" fit of Clergy.

" The like is Enacted, concern-ing ſuch as ſhall hinder any Juſtice of the Peace, or any other proper Officer, *&c.* from making ſuch Pro-clamation.

FINIS.

BOOKS printed for, and ſold by E. Curll, *at the* Dial *and* Bible *againſt St.* Dunſtan's *Church, in* Fleet-ſtreet.

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